E-Auctioning of Indian Tea

*376. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Guwahati Tea Auction Centre (GTAC) has successfully launched the process of e-auctioning of Indian Tea;

(b) if so, how it is connected with the Tea Auction Centre at different places in the country; and

(c) how it helps keep tea prices in the country markets under check to help the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) Live e-auction started for 100% dust teas at Guwahati Tea Auction Centre on 20/05/2009.

(b) Guwahati e-auction Center is connected through a common server lodged at Mumbai with all major tea auction centers.

(c) E-auction has been introduced to ensure a fair price discovery mechanism based on the quality of tea offered for sale and prevailing domestic and international market conditions including demand and supply.

Budgetary provision for Defence Procurement

*377. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the budgetary provision for defence procurement during the last five years;

(b) the actual procurement during the above period (value in rupees); and

(c) the indigenous and imported component of the above procurement (value in rupees)?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) The budgetary provision for Defence procurement during the last 5 years and actual procurement during these years are as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	BE	RE	Actuals
2004-2005	26840.05	27255.94	27208.57
2005-2006	26933.41	26185.28	25490.53
2006-2007	29990.83	26774.39	26900.44
2007-2008	32826.80	28110.01	27903.42
2008-2009	37482.77	30614.64	29994.03*
2009-2010 (Interim)	40367.72		

* Actuals uptil March (C) 2009. Accounts not closed.

The indigenous and imported component of the above Defence procurement are as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Imported	Indigenous	Total
2004-2005	15551.71	11656.86	27208.57
2005-2006	7511.39	17979.14	25490.53
2006-2007	5541.28	21359.16	26900.44
2007-2008	10161.85	17741.57	27903.42
2008-2009	10203.12	19790.91	29994.03

Increasing number of beggers in Delhi

*378. SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of ever increasing number of beggars in Delhi who are virtually occupying every part of and traffic red lights in Delhi;

(b) if so, the estimated number of beggars in Delhi, at present;

(c) the increase in their number registered during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to check this menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that as per the survey conducted in 2006, the estimated number of people engaged in begging was 58570. It is difficult to assess the number and/or increase in the number of beggars at any point of time as the population of those engaged in begging is floating and they keep migrating in and out of Delhi.

(d) A number of steps have been taken by the Government of NCT of Delhi to check begging which inter-alia include the following:

- In pursuance of the Bombay Prevention of Begging Act, 1959 as extended to Delhi, regular raids are conducted to apprehend persons engaged in begging.
- The beggars who are apprehended under the Bombay Prevention of Begging Act, 1959 are produced before the Special Courts for adjudication.
- Approval has been given for two mobile courts with two special Metropolitan Magistrates nominated by the High Court for summary trial of persons engaged in begging.
- A decision has been taken to set up an Open Shelter Home for care/rehabilitation of admonished cases.
- The Government of NCT of Delhi runs 11 certified custodial/residential institutions to keep persons away from beggary.
- A number of vocational training programmes are run for rehabilitation of persons engaged in begging.